GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:4
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2002
FINANCIAL POWERS TO PANCHAYATI RAJ INSTITUTIONS
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States are yet to implement the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996;

(b) if so, the States where the same is yet to be implemented;

(c) whether the Union Government have made any review in regard to the transfer of funds and powers to Panchahyati Raj Institutions by the State Governments;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have evaluated the performance of Panchahyati Raj Institution in various States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) to (f): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in Reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.4 for Answer on 26/02/2002

The Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 apply to the Schedule V Areas of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Orissa, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, all of whom (except Jharkhand) have started implementing the Act.

2. The Ministry of Rural Development have been regularly monitoring the implementation of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 and the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 with the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations at various levels. A Conference of Ministers of the States incharge of Panchayati Raj was also convened at New Delhi in July, 2001.

3. As per the available information, Panchayat Elections have been held in most of the States/Union Territories except in Arunachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal, Pondicherry, National Capital Territory of Delhi, Chandigarh (for Intermediate Panchayat) and Punjab (for District Panchayat and Intermediate Panchayat).The States and Union Territories have devolved funds and powers to Panchayats in varying degrees. As per the available information, the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Jharkhandand the Union Territories of Chandigarh and Pondicherry have yet to transfer funds or powers to Panchayats.